THE

PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 17[illegible]

Conclusion of the DUKE OF RICHMOND's *Speech.*

THE noble Lord who has moved the addreſs, and who has ſerved in America, has given a very different accpunt. I ſhall always deſire to have authentic information. I do not look on an expreſſion dropped in a ſpeech to be ſuch. Will the noble Lord ſubmit to a regular examination, and anſwer ſuch queſtions as I can put to him on this matter? Or will Miniſtry allow me to call to the Bar, thoſe who upon their oath muſt there give official information? The accounts I have heard are, that want of order univerſally prevails in the armies in America, that rapine and deſolation mark their progreſs.

I am not ſurpriſed that Indians and foreigners, who can have no other buſineſs in our diſputes but the money they are hired for, ſhould make plunder their only object; nor is it to be wondered at that men, who ſell their own lives, and their arms, to take away that of others, in a quarrel they cannot underſtand, ſhould practice that cruelty and barbarity, which men who have laid aſide all principle are liable to, but that Engliſhmen ſhould alſo be made engines of ſuch oppreſſion is of the moſt dangerous conſequence.

My Lords, I dread the return of that army to theſe kingdoms. Formerly the rights of the ſubject were protected by the laws, and reſpected by the army. Property was ſecure; and if the life of an Engliſhman was taken away, the whole country called for vengeance. Foul murder was the name it uſed to bear, and delinquents were certain of meeting with juſt and ignominious puniſhment. But now our ſoldiery have learnt a different leſſon. Inſtead of merely ſupporting the civil authority, and being ſtrictly reſtrained from every act of violence beyond *repelling force by force*, they have been ſuffered to ranſack houſes, to maim women, to commit every kind of outrage. I ſaw an account of a ſoldier having cut off a woman's fingers to get at her rings, and this was mentioned only as one among the numberleſs inſtances of cruelty. When an army like this returns, it may totally ſubvert the remains of freedom. If diſbanded, they will become a lawleſs banditti; if kept together, a moſt dangerous weapon in the hands of Miniſters, who have ſhewn ſo little regard to the rights of freemen. This army is ready practiſed in ſpilling the blood of Engliſhmen. It is only calling obnoxious men rebels, and your army is ready to treat them as they have done Americans, or perhaps without that ceremony.

My Lords, I would not be thought to ſpeak ill of a profeſſion I belong to, unleſs it deſerves it. I feel in myſelf that *eſprit de corps*, which makes me jealous of its honour, but I belong by much ſtronger ties to the nation, than to the army; and I hope the *eſprit de corps* of an Engliſhmen is ſtill more prevalent in me. While the army was filled with men of property, while their ſentiments were, that the firſt duty of a ſoldier was to his country, ſuch an army was no ways dangerous; but when the notion, that a ſoldier muſt have no choice, muſt not reaſon, muſt implicitly obey, was carried from the camp to matters of ſtate, and is extended ſo far as that officers are looked upon as obliged to fight againſt their countrymen, even though they think them reſiſting in a right cauſe; I ſay, my Lords, I think ſuch an army deſerves no reſpect, and becomes that mere, venal engine of power, which has ſubverted ſo many free conſtitutions. I ſhall ever revere the noble Earl in this Houſe, and ſome other officers, who rather choſe to give up their profeſſion, than ſerve upon ſuch terms, and contrary to the dictates of their own feelings; and I ſhall ever look with diſtruſt on thoſe, who adviſed his Majeſty to ſuffer ſuch conſcientious men to retire from the ſervice, and thereby perſuaded the King to diſcountenance thoſe ſentiments, which alone can make an army not dangerous to the ſtate. My Lords, it is from knowing ſomething of ſoldiers, that I know the neceſſity of diſcipline; and I ſpeak a true military language, and am a real friend to the army, when I recommend enforcing it, by the only effectual means it can be enforced, that is, by encouraging in the officers a reſpect for the laws and for the liberties of the people. But I am told, that other notions prevail in our American armies! that their marches are traced by the deſolation of thoſe we would ſtill call Engliſhmen and ſubjects. This, my Lords, among many others, ſeems a fit ſubject for enquiry.

Can we too ſoon put a ſtop to ſuch a ſcene of carnage? My Lords, I know that what I am going to ſay is not fashionable language, but a time will come, when every

[*For the Remainder ſee the Fourth Page.*]

From the LONDON GAZ[illegible]

Whitehall, December 15, 1777.

THIS afternoon Capt. Craig, of the 27th regiment, arrived from Quebec, with the following duplicate of a letter from Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne to Lord George Germaine, the original of which has not yet been received.

My Lord, *Albany, October* 20.

NO poſſibility of communication with your Lordſhip having exiſted ſince the beginning of September, at which time my laſt diſpatches were ſent away, I have to report to your Lordſhip the proceedings of the army under my command from that period; a ſeries of hard toil, inceſſant effort, ſtubborn action, till diſabled in the collateral branches of the army by the total defection of the Indians; the deſertion or the timidity of the Canadians and provincials, ſome individuals excepted; diſappointed in the laſt hope of any timely co-operation from other armies; the regular troops reduced by loſſes from the beſt parts to 3500 fighting men, not 2000 of which were Britiſh; only three days proviſions, on ſhort allowance, in ſtore; inveſted by an army of 16000 men, and no apparent means of retreat remaining; I called into council all the General Field Officers, and Captains commanding corps, and, by their unanimous concurrence and advice, I was induced to open a treaty with Major Gen. Gates.

Your Lordſhip will ſee by the papers tranſmitted herewith the diſagreeable proſpect which attended the firſt overtures, and when the terms concluded are compared, I truſt the ſpirit of the councils I have mentioned, which, under ſuch circumſtances, dictated inſtead of ſubmitting, will not be refuſed a ſhare of credit.

Before I enter upon a detail of thoſe events, I think it a duty of juſtice, my Lord, to take upon myſelf the meaſure of having paſſed the Hudſon's river, to force a paſſage to Albany. I did [illegible]

[illegible] Love.

Proviſions for about 30 days having been brought forward, the other neceſſary ſtores prepared, and the bridge of boats compleated, the army paſſed Hudſon's river the 13th and 14th of September, and encamped upon the heights and in the plains of Saratoga, the enemy being then in the neighbourhood of Stillwater.

15th. The whole army made a movement forward, and encamped in a good poſition in a place called Dovegot.

16th. It being found that there were ſeveral bridges to repair, that work was begun under cover of ſtrong detachments, and the ſame opportunity was taken to reconnoitre the country.

17th. The army renewed their march, repaired other bridges, and encamped on advantageous ground, about four miles from the enemy.

18th. The enemy appeared in conſiderable force to obſtruct the further repair of bridges, and with a view, as it was thought, to draw on an action where artillery could not be employed; a ſmall loſs was ſuſtained in ſkirmiſhing, but the work of the bridges was effected.

19th. The paſſages of a great ravin, and other roads towards the enemy, being reconnoitred, the army advanced in the following order.

Brig. Gen. Fraſer's corps, ſuſtained by Lieut. Colonel Breymen's corps, made a circuit to paſs the ravin commodiouſly, without quitting the heights, and afterwards to cover the march of the line to the right; theſe corps moved in three columns, and had the Indians, Canadians and Provincials on their fronts and flanks. The Britiſh line, led by me in perſon, paſſed the ravin in a direct line ſouth, and formed in order of battle as faſt as they gained the ſummit, where they waited to give time to Fraſer's corps to make a circuit, and to enable the left wing and artillery, which, under the command of Majors Gen. Philips and Reideſel, kept the great road and meadows near the river in two columns, and had bridges to repair, to be equally ready to proceed. The 47th regiment guarded the batteaux.

The ſignal guns, which had been previouſly ſettled to give notice of all the columns being ready to advance, having been fired between one and two o'clock, the march continued, the ſcouts and flankers of the column of the Britiſh line were ſoon fired upon from ſmall parties, but with no effect; after about an hour's march, the picquets, which made the advanced guard of that column, were attacked in force, and obliged to give ground, but they were ſoon rallied and ſuſtained.

TRENTON, March 25.

By accounts from Salem county we learn, that a number of the Britiſh troops, ſuppoſed to be between 1500 and 2000, landed laſt Tueſday at the town of Salem, with whom our militia has had ſome ſkirmiſhes, but with no great loſs on either ſide. Orders are iſſued for a large reinforcement of the militia to join Col. Ellis in Glouceſter county, and Col. Shreve, with his battalion of continental troops, has croſſed the Delaware, and is on his march to oppoſe the enemy.—It is reported that the militia of Cumberland have turned out with the moſt laudable ſpirit, and it is expected the Britiſh rovers will not be able to leave this State without great loſs, unleſs they decamp with the hurry and confuſion which diſtinguiſhed their laſt viſit—or rather viſitation.

Yeſterday Major General LEE paſſed through Bordentown, from New-York, on his way to Philadelphia, where, it is ſaid, he is likely to be exchanged.

YORK-TOWN, April 4.

To ſuch meanneſs has *Britain* fallen, that her merchants are carrying on her commerce not only in foreign bottoms, but under the protection of *Burghers Briefs*, which they ſolicit and obtain at St. Euſtatia, and are thereby entitled to the privileges of *Dutch ſubjects*, and to the right of navigating under *Dutch colours*. The facility with which they procure theſe briefs has made it become a general practice, and the office-perquiſites of the Governor of St. Euſtatia ſeem to be the principal inducement that urges him to grant them.——A caſe was adjudged at St. Pierres ſome time ago, reſpecting a French veſſel carrying Engliſh merchandize, in which the General acquieſced. The cargoe was given up to the captors, and the veſſel to the owners, without any freight, or damages for the detention of the veſſel and diſappointment in the voyage.

Extract of a letter from Martinico, February 8.

"The laſt advices from Europe mention, that the Grand Signor has given orders to ſeize all the Ruſſian veſſels in the different ports of his dominions, and that war was expected to be declared betwixt thoſe two powers in a very ſhort time. Likewiſe that the port of Liſbon would be ſhut, from the firſt of January, 1778, againſt all armed veſſels belonging to his Britannic Majeſty.

"Mr. Smith, the gentleman whom I mentioned to you in a former letter was confined at St. Vincents, on an accuſation of high treaſon, has taken his trial, and was honourably acquitted."

Extract of another letter from the ſame place, Feb. 21.

"I did myſelf the honour of mentioning to you, in a former letter, that a powerful confederacy was forming againſt Great-Britain;-----ſome late advices from France aſſure us, that this aſſociation has taken conſiſtence, and that the baſis of its political views is founded on the Independence of America;---that in conſequence of ſeveral conferences, held between the Commiſſioners of the United States and the French Miniſtry, couriers had been diſpatched to the Courts of Vienna, Liſbon and Madrid, and that as ſoon as they returned France would acknowledge the Independence of America; to which, it was thought, thoſe different Courts would reſpectively accede. This arrangement, it was expected, would be immediately productive of a more general war, as it muſt neceſſarily occaſion the intereſts and purſuits of the contracting powers to be inſeparable. Theſe accounts arrive thro' ſuch a variety of channels, that the moſt incredulous can hardly doubt their authenticity. The letters that convey them are dated at Paris the 22d of December. We need not be at any loſs to account for the conduct of France in this particular, which is founded on the ſame motives that ſhe has hitherto been uniformly actuated by, and which clearly evince a ſtudied ſyſtem of prudent and diſcreet politics; ſome accidental circumſtances may, perhaps, have precipitated her in her meaſures. The defeat and deſtruction of Burgoyne's army, I imagine, muſt have covered the Engliſh Miniſtry with ſhame and confuſion, and from the day that the fatal tidings arrived, they muſt have been convinced of their impotency in compleating their favourite ſcheme of conqueſt.

"The act of parliament, authoriſing the Governors of the Engliſh iſlands to confine as priſoners our captive ſeamen, &c. expired the beginning of January, ſince which it has not been renewed.

"The American veſſels that ſail from this port are now regularly convoyed by French frigates; indeed many of the French merchantmen take the benefit of this protection, as the faithleſs conduct of the Engliſh, in having commenced hoſtilities the laſt war, previous to the declaration of it, has made them cautious and ſuſpicious of the ſame ſiniſter deſigns. Theſe convoys for the protection of our commerce have greatly alarmed the Engliſh, and are a conſiderable ſtep towards an open rupture.

"The reſolve of Congreſs, that engaged the payment of Six per cent. intereſt per annum, in bills of exchange upon Paris, for amount of money depoſited in the Continental Loan-Office, has been attended with happy and beneficial effects. It has increaſed the ſpirit of ſpeculation amongſt foreigners, and has given riſe to a number of them, both in Europe and the Weſt-Indies.

"The arrival of the Continental brig Reſiſtance gave me an opportunity of ſeeing as much reſpect paid to the Continental Flag, as to that of his Britannic Majeſty, who proudly aſſumes the ſovereignty of the ſeas. After encountering thoſe difficulties which an attempt to reform eſtabliſhed cuſtoms generally occaſions, liberty was obtained for Capt. Chew to enter into the port, drop anchor, and take his departure, without going through any of the Cuſtom-houſe formalities, or paying any of the fees of office; and likewiſe to hoiſt his pendant in the harbour, altho' the French Commodore was then in port. It has given me a very ſenſible pleaſure to ſee our Continental Flag on ſo reſpectable a footing.—The deſign of theſe colours is happily conceived, and has occaſioned general admiration; I hope the luſtre of the new Conſtellation will continue to encreaſe; there is a riſing radiance already ſpread about it, brighter than what encircles the brows of *fallen Majeſty*. I expect ſoon that it will have a conſpicuous place aſſigned it in the political ſyſtem, and under its propitious influence, to ſee America riſe to Freedom, Independence and Empire."

Extract of a leter from Trenton, New-Jerſey, March 20.

"A conſiderable number of the enemy are over at Salem, moſtly Greens; but I believe their ſtay will be ſhort, as the militia from Cumberland, aided by their Magiſtrates and old men (who are exempt by law) are marching, with a determination to fight them wherever they can find them. If Pennſylvania andthe whole of Jerſey were like Cumberland, Morris, Somerſet and ſome other parts of this State, where no perſon, who is able to carry a muſket, will be exempt when the enemy come near, theſe plunderers muſt have ſucked their paws in the city, or quit the parts before now."

A SONG.

To the Tune of Pepperell and Pumpkinſhire People.

MAKE room, O ye kingdoms, in hiſt'ry renowned,
Whoſe arms have in battle with glory been crowned,
Make room, for *America*, another great nation,
Ariſes to claim in your councils a ſtation.

Her ſons fought for freedom, and by their own bravery,
Have reſcued themſelves from the ſhackles of ſlavery;
America is free, and tho' Britain abhor'd it,
Yet Fame a new volume prepares to record it.

Fair Freedom in Britain her throne had erected.
But her ſons growing venal, and ſhe diſreſpected,
The Goddeſs, offended, forſook the baſe nation,
And fix'd on our mountains, a more honour'd ſtation.

With glory immortal ſhe here ſits enthroned,
Nor fears the vain vengeance of Britain diſarmed,
Whilſt *Waſhington* guards her, with heroes ſurrounded,
Her foes ſhall with ſhameful defeat be confounded.

To arms then, to arms, 'tis fair Freedom invites us,
The trumpet, ſhrill ſounding, to battle excites us,
The banners of virtue, unfurl'd, ſhall wave o'er us,
Our hero lead on, and the foe fly before us.

On *Heaven* and *Waſhington* placing reliance,
We'll meet the bold Briton, and bid him defiance,
Our cauſe we'll ſupport, for 'tis juſt and 'tis glorious,
When men fight for FREEDOM they muſt be victorious.

The TOAST.

'Tis Waſhington's Health—fill a Bumper all round,
For he is our Glory and Pride;
Our Arms ſhall in Battle with Conqueſt be crown'd,
Whilſt Virtue and He's on our Side.

'Tis Waſhington's Health—loud Cannon ſhould roar,
And Trumpets the Truth ſhould proclaim,
There cannot be found, ſearch all the World o'er,
His equal in Virtue and Fame.

'Tis Waſhington's Health—our Hero to bleſs
May Heaven look graciouſly down,
O long may He live, our Hearts to poſſeſs,
And FREEDOM ſtill call Him her own.

YORK-TOWN, MARCH 31, 1778.

CONGRESS having reſolved to raiſe a Corps, conſiſting of Infantry and Cavalry, to be commanded by GENERAL COUNT PULASKI, All thoſe, who deſire to diſtinguiſh themſelves in the ſervice of their country, are invited to enliſt in that corps, which is eſtabliſhed on the ſame principles as the Roman Legions were. The frequent opportunities, which the nature of the ſervice of that corps will offer to the enterprizing, brave and vigilant ſoldiers, who ſhall ſerve in it, are motives which ought to influence thoſe, who are qualified for admiſſion into it, to prefer it to other corps not ſo immediately deſtined to harraſs the enemy; and the many captures which will infallibly be made, muſt indemnify the Legionary Soldiers for the hardſhips they muſt ſuſtain, and the inconſiderable ſum given for bounty, the term for their ſervice being no longer than one year from the time that the corps ſhall be completed. Their dreſs is calculated to give a martial appearance, and to ſecure the ſoldier againſt the inclemency of the weather and ſeaſon. The time for action approaching, thoſe, who deſire to have an opportunity of diſtinguiſhing themſelves in that corps, are requeſted to apply to Major JULIUS, Count de Mont-Fort, at Head-Quarters.

On the firſt opening of the wood, I formed the troops; a few cannon ſhot diſlodged the enemy at a houſe from which the picquets had been attacked; and Brigadier General Fraſer's corps had arrived with ſuch preciſion in point of time, as to be found on a very advantageous height on the right of the Britiſh.

In the mean time the enemy, not acquainted with the combination of the march, had moved in great force out of their intrenchments, with a view of turning the line upon the right; and being checked by the poſition of Brigadier Gen. Fraſer, counter-marched in order to direct their great effort to the left of the Britiſh.

From the nature of the country movements of this nature, however near, may be effected without a poſſibility of their being diſcovered. About three o'clock the action began by a very vigorous attack on the Britiſh line, and continued with great obſtinacy till after ſun-ſet. The enemy being continually ſupplied with freſh troops, the ſtreſs lay upon the 20th, 21ſt, and 62d regiments, moſt parts of which were engaged near four hours without intermiſſion; the 9th had been ordered early in the day to form in reſerve. The grenadiers and 24th regiment were ſome part of the time brought into action, as were part of the light infantry; and all theſe corps charged with their uſual ſpirit. The riflemen, and other parts of Bremen's corps, were alſo of ſervice; but it was not thought adviſeable to evacuate the height where Gen. Fraſer was poſted, otherwiſe than partially and occaſionally.

Major Gen. Philips, upon firſt hearing the firing, found his way through a difficult part of the wood to the ſcene of action, and brought up with him Major Williams, and four pieces of artillery, and from that moment I ſtood indebted to that gallant and judicious ſecond for inceſſant and moſt material ſervices; particularly for reſtoring the action in a point which was critically preſſed by a great ſuperiority of fire, and to which he led up the 20th regiment at the utmoſt perſonal hazard.

Major Gen. Reideſel exerted himſelf to bring up a part of the left wing, and arrived in time to charge the enemy with regularity and bravery.

Juſt as the light cloſed, the enemy gave ground on all ſides, and left us compleat maſters of the field, with the loſs of 500 on their ſide; and, as ſuppoſed, thrice that number wounded.———The darkneſs preventing a purſuit, the priſoners were few.

The behaviour of the officers and men in general was exemplary. Brigadier General Fraſer took his poſition in the beginning of the day with great judgment, and ſuſtained the action with conſtant preſence of mind and vigour. Brigadier General Hamilton was the whole time engaged, and acquitted himſelf with great honour, activity and good conduct. The artillery in general was diſtinguiſhed, and the brigade under Captain Jones, who was killed in the action, was conſpicuouſly ſo.

The army lay on their arms the night of the 19th, and the next day took a poſition nearly within cannon ſhot of the enemy, fortifying their right, and extending their left ſo as to cover the meadows through which the great river runs, and where the batteaux and hoſpitals were placed. The 47th regiment, and the regiment of Heſſe Hanau, with a corps of provincials, encamped in the meadows as a farther ſecurity.

It was ſoon found that no fruits, honour excepted, were obtained by the preceding victory; the enemy working with redoubled ardour to ſtrengthen their left, their right was unattackable already.

On our ſide, it became expedient to erect ſtrong redoubts for the protection of the magazines and hoſpital, not only againſt a ſudden attack, but alſo for their ſecurity in caſe of a march to turn the enemy's flank.

21ſt. A meſſenger arrived from Sir Harry Clinton, with a letter in cyphers, informing me of his intention to attack Fort Montgomery in about ten days from the date of his letter, which was the 10th of September. This was the only meſſenger of many that I apprehend were diſpatched by Sir W. Howe and him, that had reached my camp ſince the beginning of Auguſt. He was ſent back the ſame night to inform Sir Harry of my ſituation, and of the neceſſity of a diverſion, to oblige Gen. Gates to detach from his army, and my intention to wait favourable events in that poſition, if poſſible, to the 12th of October.

In the courſe of the two following days, two officers in diſguiſe, and other confidential perſons, were diſpatched by different routes, with verbal meſſages to the ſame effect; and I continued fortifying my camp and watching the enemy, whoſe numbers encreaſed every day.

3d of October. I thought it adviſable to diminiſh the ſoldiers rations, in order to lengthen out the proviſions, to which meaſure the army ſubmitted with the utmoſt chearfulneſs. The difficulties of a retreat to Canada were clearly foreſeen, as was the dilemma, ſhould the retreat be effected, of leaving at liberty ſuch an army as General Gates's to act againſt Sir William Howe.

This conſideration operated forcibly to determine me to abide events as long as poſſible, and I reaſoned thus: The expedition I commanded was evidently meant to be hazarded; circumſtances might require it ſhould be devoted: a critical junction of Mr. Gates's force with Mr. Waſhington might poſſibly decide the fate of the war; the failure of my junction with Sir Harry Clinton, or the loſs of my retreat to Canada, could only be a partial misfortune.

7th. In this ſituation things continued till the 7th, when no intelligence having been received of the expected co-operation, and four or five days for our limited ſtay in the camp only remained, it was judged adviſeable to make a movement to the enemy's left, not only to diſcover whether there were any poſſible means of forcing a paſſage, ſhould it be neceſſary to advance, or of engaging him for the convenience of retreat, but alſo to cover a forage of the army, which was in the greateſt diſtreſs on account of the ſcarcity.

A detachment of 1500 regular troops, with 2 twelve pounders, 2 howitzers, and 6 ſix pounders, were ordered to move, and was commanded by myſelf, having with me Major General Philips, Major General Reideſel, and Brigadier General Fraſer. The guard of the camp upon the heights was left to Brigadiers General Hamilton and Speight; the redoubts and the plain to Brigadier General Goll; and as the force of the enemy immediately in their front conſiſted of more than double their numbers, it was not poſſible to augment the corps that marched beyond the numbers above ſtated.

I formed the troops within three quarters of a mile of the enemy's left; and Captain Fraſer's rangers, with Indians and Provincials, had orders to go by ſecret paths in the woods to gain the enemy's rear, and by ſhewing themſelves there to keep them in check.

The further operations intended were prevented by a very ſudden and rapid attack of the enemy on our left, where the Britiſh grenadiers were poſted to ſupport the left wing of the line. Major Ackland at the head of them ſuſtained the attack with great reſolution; but the enemy's great numbers enabling them in a few minutes to extend the attack along the front of the Germans, which were immediately on the right of the grenadiers, no part of that body could be removed to make a ſecond line to the flank, where the ſtreſs of the fire lay. The right was at that time unengaged; but it was ſoon obſerved that the enemy were marching a large corps round their flank to endeavour cutting off their retreat. The light infantry and part of the 24th regiment, which were at that poſt, were therefore ordered to form a ſecond line, and to ſecure the return of the troops into camp.

While this movement was proceeding, the enemy puſhed a freſh and ſtrong reinforcement to renew the action upon the left, which, overpowered by ſo great a ſuperiority, gave way, and the light infantry and 24th regiment were obliged to make a quick movement to ſave that point from being entirely carried, in doing which Brigadier General Fraſer was mortally wounded.

The danger to which the lines were expoſed becoming at this moment of the moſt ſerious nature, orders were given to Majors Gen. Philips and Reideſell to cover the retreat, while ſuch troops as were moſt ready for the purpoſe returned for the defence of the ſame. The troops retreated hard preſſed, but in good order. They were obliged to leave ſix pieces of cannon, all the horſes having been killed, and moſt of the artillery men, who had behaved as uſual with the utmoſt bravery, under the command of Major Williams, being either killed or wounded.

The troops had ſcarcely entered the camp, when it was ſtormed with great fury, the enemy ruſhing to the lines under a ſevere fire of grape ſhot and ſmall arms. The poſt of the light infantry under Lord Belcarres, aſſiſted by ſome of the line, who threw themſelves by order into thoſe entrenchments, was defended with great ſpirit; and the enemy, led on by General Arnold, was finally repulſed, and the General wounded; but unhappily the entrenchments of the German reſerve, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Breymen, who was killed, were carried, and although ordered to be recovered, they never were ſo; and the the enemy by that misfortune gained an opening to our right and rear. The night put an end to the action.

Under the diſadvantages thus apparent in our ſituation, the army was ordered to quit the preſent poſition during the night, and take poſt upon the height above the hoſpital; thus, by an entire change of front, to reduce the enemy to form a new diſpoſition. This movement was effected with great order and without loſs, though all the artillery and camp were removed at the ſame time. The army continued offering battle to the enemy in their new poſition the whole day of the 8th.

8th. Intelligence was now received that the enemy were marching to turn the right, and no means could prevent this meaſure but retiring towards Saratoga. The army began to move at nine o'clock at night, Major General Reideſel commanding the van-guard, and Major General Philips the rear.

This retreat, though within muſquet-ſhot of the enemy, and encumbered with all the baggage of the army, was made without loſs; but a very heavy rain, and the difficulties of guarding the batteaux, which contained all the proviſions, occaſioned delays, which prevented the army reaching Saratoga till the night of the 9th, and the artillery could not paſs the fords of the Fiſhkill till the morning of the 10th.

[*Remainder in our next.*]

one of us muſt account to God for his actions; and how can we juſtify cauſing ſo many innocent lives to be loſt? Lives of our fellow ſubjects, which we are bound to protect. I ſcarcely dare call on the Right Reverend Bench of Biſhops even for a Chriſtian purpoſe, to aſſiſt in ſtopping the effuſion of Chriſtian Proteſtant blood. The very calling on Biſhops creates a laugh, and they join in it themſelves. But it ill becomes them. They ſhould conſider, that they ſit here for their temporal concerns only as a ſecondary object; their firſt duty is, by example, mildneſs and perſuaſion, to ſoften our deliberations; and particularly in caſes which ſo immediately affect the object of all religion as the morality of our actions, and are of ſuch extent as that now under deliberation. It becomes a mere joke, if they are to retire from the Houſe when a poor criminal is at your Bar, becauſe they cannot bring themſelves to vote in a caſe of blood, and yet can adviſe the moſt ſanguinary meaſures, which involve the lives of thouſands. But, my Lords, as I ſaid before, I know that arguments, drawn from religion or humanity, are of little avail, I ſhall therefore return to thoſe of policy, which every day ſpeak more and more forcibly.

If the conqueſt of America by force becomes now evidently impoſſible, let us conſider what we are riſking in this idle and wicked purſuit. The Speech gives us reaſon to think, that his Majeſty does not truſt to the aſſurances he receives from foreign powers for the preſervation of peace. That their armaments call for armaments on our ſide. Let us then reflect on the condition we are in for that European war, againſt which we are called upon to prepare. Our chief army, that of our allies, and the greateſt part of our frigates, are in America. Will not the firſt hoſtilities here oblige us to recall them, and conſequently to abandon America? Can thoſe armies come away without loſs? Are we ſure that they will arrive in time to ſave this country? Do not they run the riſk of being intercepted? In the mean time, let us ſee what we have to truſt to at home. The noble Lord at the head of the Admiralty ſays, we have a good fleet, well manned, ſuperior to what France and Spain can unitedly bring againſt us. He is reſponſible for what he has aſſerted; I wiſh it may prove ſo. But are we ſure, that, in caſe of a rupture, a ſuperior fleet can ſecure us from a foreign invaſion of this iſland acroſs a Channel, which, from numberleſs ports, may be traverſed in a winter's night? We know that almoſt as often as foreign forces have ſeriouſly attempted to land, they have ſucceeded; and what is our defence here if ſuch an event ſhould take place? I remember that at the beginning of the laſt war, the apprehenſions of an invaſion were ſo great that, although almoſt all our army and navy was at home, we ſent over for twelve thouſand Hanoverians and Heſſians to protect us. Perhaps that was needleſs and exceſſive caution; but we err too much the other way, when we truſt to the very ſmall force now in England or Ireland; and however uſeful the militia may be, I hope we ſhall never rely on them ſolely for our defence, eſpecially officered as they now are, by men without that qualification which is the very eſſence of their conſtitution. Of all nations upon the earth, I believe England would be the ſooneſt and eaſieſt conquered, if a conſiderable foreign force was to land at this moment, while our army is out of the kingdom, for our people are totally unuſed to arms, the country is without fortreſſes or ſtrong poſts, and our government without confidence.

The ſtate of our finance appears to me equally critical. It is a ſubject of too much detail to enter into on a day not peculiarly appropriated for that purpoſe; but it is ſufficient to ſay, that we are far, very far exceeding that debt, which, at the end of the laſt war, was thought would cruſh us, and was then ſufficient to compel us to peace. In addition to that debt, and its preſent vaſt increaſe, we have I fear loſt America, and the reſources it furniſhed.

His Majeſty in his ſpeech ſays, "he ſhall ever be watchful of an opportunity of putting a ſtop to the effuſion of the blood of his ſubjects;" but a noble Lord has ſaid, that the propoſal for peace muſt not come from Parliament. But, my Lords, I muſt contend, that there are no means at preſent exiſting for the King to ſet on foot any treaty for peace. The grounds of the preſent conteſt are the pretended rights of Parliament. The King cannot of his own authority enter into any treaty for relinquiſhing the moſt inſignificant of them. The act under which Commiſſioners are appointed, authoriſes them merely to receive ſubmiſſions and on that condition to grant pardons; and therefore, if both ſides were ever ſo much inclined to treat, that is, reciprocally to yield up claims, there is no legal method open for ſuch a treaty. Even the diſpoſition of Parliament is uncertain. At one time, we do not mean taxation; at another revenue is not our object; one miniſter requires only admiſſion of the ſupremacy of Parliament, another unconditional ſubmiſſion.

A Secretary of State has told us, that the negociation opened on Staten-Iſland broke up as ſoon as begun, becauſe the American Deputies required the admiſſion of their independency as a *ſine qua non*. I believe the want of power in our Commiſſioners *to treat*, was the true cauſe of that buſineſs's proceeding no further; and although I am perſuaded the noble Lord did not mean to deceive the Houſe, I have reaſon to believe the tranſaction was not as he has ſtated. Let the noble Lord lay before the Houſe the account which was received of it, that is the regular mode of parliamentary information. I wiſh parliament would remedy the real difficulty which at preſent ſubſiſts, and authoriſe commiſſioners really *to treat*.

In regard to the amendment propoſed, my only objection to it is, that it ſeems to convey to the world an idea that we are ſtill in time to recover thoſe invaluable provinces to Great-Britain. I much fear it is elapſed. I do not ſay that it is impoſſible to reunite America with England in ſome ſhape or other, or that it ſhould not be attempted; but I would not have the people of this country raiſed to an expectation, in which I fear they would be deceived. I will not deſpair, becauſe I am convinced that an equitable and fair union would be moſt advantageous to the inhabitants of both countries; but after the exaſperated ſtate to which things have been driven between the army and the Americans, I doubt they never will be reconciled to hold any dependence on a nation, from which they have received ſuch unpardonable injuries.

A Secretary of State has ſaid, that he was glad to hear the noble Earl, who moved the amendment, declare, that he was ſtill for the dependency of America, and that he underſtood all who ſupported the noble Lord agreed in the ſame ſentiment. I know not from what premiſes ſuch a concluſion is drawn, but leſt ſilence ſhould be deemed acquieſcence, I muſt for one declare, that although I much wiſh to ſee the Americans return of their own accord to a reaſonable degree of dependency on this country, yet I will not ſay that any alliance with them as free ſtates ought to be rejected. If we can obtain the benefits of their commerce, in return for our protection, it is all that is eſſential, ſtill leſs might be beneficial. I would treat, and get what I could with their conſent; but I would ſooner give up every claim to America, than continue an unjuſt and cruel civil war. I am happy to find the noble Earl who moved the amendment has, in ſome reſpect, deviated from the bill he propoſed three years ago; and that he would now give America ſecurity againſt the exiſtence of a military force there without their conſent. Indeed the ſad experience they have had makes ſuch a ſecurity the more called for, as without it all other proviſions would be uſeleſs.

To the PUBLIC.

TAKE NOTICE, *That the Firſt Claſs of the* United States Lottery *will commence drawing the Firſt of* May *next. No Tickets will be ſold after the* 30*th of this Month. Thoſe that are deſirous of becoming Adventurers may be furniſhed with Tickets, by* Mr. GOVETT, *at the* Treasury-Office.

To be SOLD, by
JACOB ROTHROCK,
A Quantity of WINDOW GLASS.
York-Town, March 21, 1778. ¶

WANTED for the Treasury-Office *of the*
UNITED STATES,
TWO good Clerks and Accomptants: Such as may apply to be admitted, muſt bring with them good recommendations of their moral conduct.

WHEREAS two copper STILLS, of different ſizes, came laſt Auguſt by the Packet, addreſſed, by direction, to the care of Mr. William Knox, in Baltimore, and were by him put into my ſtore there, which Stills have ſince remained unclaimed by any perſon---I am therefore inclined to believe, for many reaſons, that theſe Stills were intended for me, though I have had no regular advice thereof---but as I am not abſolutely certain, and Stills at preſent a precious commodity, I judge it both honeſt and expedient to give this public notice, that if any perſon has a legal claim, they may apply, otherwiſe I ſhall uſe the Stills as my property.
March 9, 1778. 30s. Thomas Usher.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, living in Hamilton's Bann townſhip, York county, a black and white COW, without any ear-mark, has a little off the tips of her horns. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges and take her away. ‖ 22/6 William Finley.

YORK-TOWN: Printed by HALL and SELLERS.